

Message Text

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53

ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 A-01 L-03 /022 W

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R 170745Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9752

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 1228

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ABLD, BU

SUBJECT: "CASHLESS EXCHANGE" OF BUILDING LOTS FOR BULGARIAN
CHANCERY IN WASHINGTON AND NEW AMERICAN CHANCERY IN SOFIA

REF SOFIA 1001

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY AVRAMOV, EIGHTH DEPARTMENT) IN-
QUIRED JUNE 16 WHETHER WE HAVE NEWS ABOUT PROPOSED EX-
CHANGE OF BUILDING LOTS. SAID AMBASSADOR POPOV BEING
RECALLED HERE AMONG OTHER REASONS TO CARRY THIS FORWARD,
BUT BALL STILL IN OUR COURT. AMBASSADOR HERZ SAID HE
EXPECTS NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS SOON. AVRAMOV SAID
MFA HOPES TO HAVE BULGARIAN EMBASSY MOVED INTO NEW
QUARTERS IN TWO YEARS.

2. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS THIS SUBJECT DURING AMBASSADOR'S
RECENT CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON, WE HAVE REVIEWED
THIS MATTER WITHIN EMBASSY AND CONCLUDE THAT WHILE
BULGARIANS PROBABLY WILL ACCEPT THAT THERE IS NO
PRECISE EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN BUILDING LOTS IN WASHINGTON
AND SOFIA, THEY ALMOST CERTAINLY DID NOT MEAN THAT THE
ENTIRE SITE FOUR AT FESTIVAL HALL WOULD BE AVAILABLE ON
A SWAP BASIS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, REQUEST NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS TAKING
INTO ACCOUNT ABOVE PARA AND SEEKING AS OUR OBJECTIVE
SOMETHING LIKE A THREE-TO-ONE RATIO IN LAND. EVEN THIS
WILL BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN, BUT SHOULD NOT BE IMPOSSIBLE.

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IF ON OTHER HAND A "CASHLESS TRANSACTION" IS NOT IN THE

CARDS, WE SHOULD KNOW THIS BEFORE BULGARIANS GET GEARED
UP TOO FAR IN THAT DIRECTION.
HERZ

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